

# Kentucky Agri-News

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*Featuring:* ▶ County Estimates ▶ Farm Numbers ▶ Crop Values ▶ Annual Honey ▶ Farm Labor  
▶ Slaughter ▶ Cold Storage ▶ Agricultural Prices ▶ Chicken & Eggs  
▶ Milk Production ▶ Dairy Products

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## UNION, CHRISTIAN AND HENDERSON LEAD STATE IN CORN PRODUCTION

Union was the top producing corn county in Kentucky for the 2010 crop season. During 2010, Union County produced 11,466,000 bushels of corn from 80,000 acres harvested for grain with a yield of 143.3 bushels per acre. Christian County was second in production with 10,956,000 bushels followed by Henderson County with 10,210,000 bushels. Other counties with seven million bushels of production or more included Daviess, Graves and Logan. The highest yielding county was Wayne with 156.8 bushels per acre.

Corn for grain production was estimated at 152.5 million bushels, down 20 percent from the 2009 crop. Production was down due to a decrease in yield per acre, while harvested for grain acreage increased. Yield for Kentucky was estimated at 124 bushels per acre, down 41 bushels from last year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain at 1.23 million acres, up 80,000 acres from the 2009 crop. Corn production for the Nation was estimated at 12.4 billion bushels, down 5 percent from 2009.

## HENDERSON, DAVIESS AND UNION TOP SOYBEAN PRODUCING COUNTIES

Henderson County was the leading soybean production county in Kentucky with 3,000,000 bushels of soybeans. Production came from 76,200 acres harvested with a yield of 39.4 bushels per acre. Daviess County was second in production with 2,800,000 bushels followed by Union County with 2,740,000 bushels. Clinton County was the highest yielding county with 52.9 bushels per acre. Soybean production was estimated at 47.3 million bushels, down 31

percent from the 2009 crop. The smaller crop was brought about by a decrease in yield per acre and smaller harvested acreage. Yield was estimated at 34 bushels per acre, down 14 bushels from last year. Acreage harvested as beans was estimated at 1.39 million acres, down 30,000 acres from the previous year. U.S. soybean production totaled 3.33 billion bushels, down 1 percent from 2009.

## CHRISTIAN, LOGAN AND TODD WERE THE TOP THREE WHEAT COUNTIES

Christian County produced 2,995,000 bushels of winter wheat and was the leading wheat producing county in Kentucky during the 2010 crop season. Yield for the county averaged 71.7 bushels per acre with production harvested from 41,800 acres. Logan County was second in production with 2,300,000 bushels while Todd County was third with 1,450,000 bushels. Wayne County was the top yielding county with 73.3 bushels per acre. Weather

remained an important factor for winter wheat in 2010. A wet fall delayed seeding, and flooding in May further reduced acreage harvested for grain. Farmers harvested 250,000 acres for grain, 140,000 acres less than in 2009. Yield was estimated at 66 bushels per acre. U.S. winter wheat production was estimated at 1.49 billion bushels, down 3 percent from the 2009 crop.

## FARM NUMBERS

In 2010, there were 85,700 farms in **Kentucky**, up 200 farms from a year ago. A farm is defined as “any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year”. Sales also include government payments. Farm numbers include properties with acres enrolled in the Conservation or Wetland Reserve

government programs. Research and institutional farms are included in the farm definition. Kentucky was the fifth ranking state in the number of farms. Texas ranked first with 247,500. Missouri was second with 108,000, Iowa was third with 92,400 and Oklahoma was fourth with 86,500.

**Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size by Economic Sales Class  
Kentucky and United States, 2009-2010**

State	Number of Farms		Land in Farms		Average Farm Size	
	2009 1/	2010	2009 1/	2010	2009 1/	2010
	(Number)		(1,000 Acres)		(Acres)	
Kentucky Total	85,500	85,700	14,000	14,000	164	163
\$1,000 - \$9,999	55,000	55,500	4,400	4,400	80	79
\$10,000 - \$99,999	24,500	24,000	4,900	4,800	200	200
\$100,000 - \$249,999	2,900	2,800	1,400	1,300	483	464
\$250,000 - \$499,999	1,400	1,500	1,050	1,050	750	700
\$500,000 & over	1,700	1,900	2,250	2,450	1,324	1,289
U.S. Total	2,200,210	2,200,930	919,890	919,990	418	418
\$1,000 - \$9,999	1,229,400	1,230,800	105,580	104,980	86	85
\$10,000 - \$99,999	597,080	594,850	226,900	223,430	380	376
\$100,000 - \$249,999	149,390	149,050	147,890	146,060	990	980
\$250,000 - \$499,999	99,570	99,510	149,385	146,685	1,500	1,474
\$500,000 & over	124,770	126,720	290,135	298,835	2,325	2,358

1/Revised.

## KENTUCKY CROPS VALUED AT \$2.27 BILLION

Crops produced by **Kentucky** farmers during the year 2010 were valued at \$2.27 billion, down from the 2009 crop valued at \$2.44 billion. Flooding in early spring followed by an extremely hot summer in many areas of the state reduced crop production and quality for 2010. Corn increased in total crop value, while soybeans, hay, tobacco and wheat decreased. Corn continues to be Kentucky's number one cash crop. Corn accounted for 36.6 percent of Kentucky's total crop value for the year 2010. Kentucky ranked 23rd among all states in value of crop production. The value of production for the year 2010 is preliminary and based on an estimate of market year average

prices. Value of production will change as market year average price and/or production are revised.

All crops produced in the **U.S.** for 2010 were valued at \$192.5 billion, up 22 percent from 2009. California remained the number one State with a total crop value of \$22.7 billion. Iowa was second with \$18.0 billion, and Illinois ranked third with \$17.0 billion. The Nation's top three crops in value of production were corn with \$66.7 billion, soybeans with \$38.9 billion and all baled hay with \$14.4 billion.

## KENTUCKY PRINCIPAL CROPS RANKED ACCORDING TO VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2009 – 2010

2010 Rank	Commodity	Unit	2009 Crop Year 1/			2010 Crop Year 2/			10 Value as % of 09 Value
			Price (Dollars)	Value (\$1,000)	% of Total Value	Price (Dollars)	Value (\$1000)	% of Total Value	
1.	Corn (for grain)	Bu.	3.74	709,665	29.1	5.45	831,234	36.6	117
2.	Soybeans	Bu.	9.90	674,784	27.7	12.10	571,846	25.1	85
3.	Hay, All (baled)	Ton	100.00	568,910	23.3	92.50	469,614	20.6	83
4.	Tobacco, All	Lb.	1.852	383,208	15.7	1.677	304,771	13.4	80
5.	Wheat, All	Bu.	4.60	102,258	4.2	5.85	96,525	4.2	94
6.	Fruit & Vegetables			NA	NA		NA	NA	NA
7.	Miscellaneous			NA	NA		NA	NA	NA
	TOTAL			2,439,099			2,274,162		93

1/Revised. 2/Preliminary. NA – Not Available.

## HONEY PRODUCTION

**U.S.** honey production in 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 176 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2009. There were 2.68 million colonies producing honey in 2010, up 7 percent from 2009. Yield per colony averaged 65.5 pounds, up 12 percent from the 58.6 pounds in 2009. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 45.3 million pounds on December 15, 2010, up 21

percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program. Honey prices increased to a record high during 2010 to 160.3 cents per pound, up 9 percent from 147.3 cents per pound in 2009. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2009 crop reflect honey sold in 2009 and 2010. Some 2009 crop honey was sold in 2010, which caused some revisions to the 2009 crop prices.

## U.S. HIRED WORKERS UP 1 PERCENT, WAGE RATES UP 2 PERCENT

There were 807,000 hired workers on the **Nation's** farms and ranches during the week of January 9-15, 2011, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 602,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 205,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.29 per hour during the January 2011 reference week, up 21 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.23 per hour, up 13 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$10.52 per hour compared with \$10.31 a year

earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.35 per hour, was up 17 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers on farms in the **3-State Region including Kentucky**, Tennessee, and West Virginia totaled 18,000 during the week of January 9-15, 2011. Hired workers worked an average 36.7 hours during the survey week. The average wage rate for all hired workers was \$9.90 per hour. Field workers averaged \$8.71 per hour and livestock workers averaged \$9.25 per hour.

### COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Type	Jan 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011	Jan 11 % of	
				Jan 10	Dec 10
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,083.1	2,272.4	2,123.7	102	93
Veal	11.6	11.7	10.8	93	92
Pork	1,810.1	2,056.0	1,896.2	105	92
Lamb & Mutton	12.8	15.0	11.2	87	74
Total U.S.	3,917.6	4,355.1	4,041.8	103	93
<b>Total Kentucky</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>87</b>

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, JANUARY 2010 & 2011

Type	Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Avg Live Weight	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.8	1.5	1,814	1,522	982	988
Hogs	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Sheep & Lambs	0.7	0.7	89	83	120	125
United States						
Cattle	2,707.2	2,735.2	3,480,603	3,544,876	1,290	1,301
Hogs	8,909.7	9,103.7	2,417,827	2,529,725	272	278
Sheep & Lambs	186.6	161.1	25,705	22,301	138	139

1/Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

### CROP AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED - (\$)

COMMODITY	Unit	KENTUCKY			US
		FEB 2010	JAN 2011	FEB 2011	FEB 2011
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <u>1</u>	
All Corn <u>2</u> / <u>3</u>	Bu.	3.88	4.80	5.60	5.66
Soybeans <u>2</u>	Bu.	10.00	11.60	12.30	12.10
Winter Wheat <u>2</u>	Bu.	NA	NA	NA	8.13
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	145.00	140.00	140.00	127.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	75.00	75.00	75.00	93.90

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes contract sales paid during month. 3/ Includes yellow and white corn. NA – Not Available.

### COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

ALL U.S. WAREHOUSE STOCKS				Jan 11 as % of	
Commodity	Jan 31, 2010	Dec 31, 2010	Jan 31, 2011	Jan 10	Dec 10
Frozen Poultry				Percent	
Chicken	630,249	802,794	778,259	123	97
Turkey	302,058	191,560	254,212	84	133
Ducks	2,797	2,505	3,797	136	152
Total Frozen Poultry	935,104	996,859	1,036,268	111	104
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	426,259	444,963	460,238	108	103
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	53,584	50,677	51,319	96	101
Total Frozen Pork <u>1</u>	492,287	475,829	540,908	110	114
Total Meat <u>2</u>	938,370	939,864	1,017,900	108	108

1/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 2/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

### LIVESTOCK AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED 1 - (\$)

COMMODITY	Unit	UNITED STATES		
		FEB 2010	JAN 2011	FEB 2011
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <u>2</u>
All Hogs	Cwt.	48.90	55.80	61.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	48.90	56.70	62.60
Sows	Cwt.	49.20	47.80	50.90
All Beef Cattle <u>3</u>	Cwt.	85.70	107.00	106.00
Steers & Heifers <u>4</u>	Cwt.	90.50	110.00	109.00
Cows	Cwt.	51.70	65.00	71.20
Calves <u>5</u>	Cwt.	113.00	136.00	136.00
Sheep	Cwt.	54.80	81.90	NA
Lambs	Cwt.	106.00	149.00	NA

1/Beginning with January 2011, State level livestock prices will be discontinued. U.S. level prices will be published based on data provided by United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. 4/ 500 lbs. and over. 5/ Under 500 lbs. NA – Not Available.

### UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Jan. 2010	Jan. 2011	11 % of 10
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,724	7,828	101
Average Layers (000)	340,596	342,017	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,268	2,289	101
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Feb 1 (000)	39,338	39,701	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	38,794	41,366	107
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Feb 1 (000)	627,804	634,192	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	775,615	781,123	101

# MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the **23 major States** during January totaled 15.2 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from January 2010. December revised production, at 15.0 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from December 2009. The December revision represented a decrease of 17 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,813 pounds for January, 29 pounds above January 2010. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.40 million head, 82,000 head more than January 2010, and 14,000 head more than December 2010.

## U.S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, JANUARY 2011

PRODUCT	Jan. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Change from	
				Jan. 10	Dec. 10
<b>BUTTER</b>	162,067	(000) Pounds 158,051	166,518	Percent 2.7	5.4
<b>CHEESE</b>					
American Types <u>1/</u>	347,563	371,137	362,735	4.4	-2.3
Mozzarella	285,020	308,715	306,234	7.4	-0.8
All Other Types <u>2/</u>	209,063	227,930	214,440	2.6	-5.9
Total	841,646	907,782	883,409	5.0	-2.7
		(000) Gallons		Percent	
<b>FROZEN PRODUCTS</b>					
Ice Cream (Hard)	55,429	52,298	55,811	0.7	6.7
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	3,816	3,815	3,615	-5.3	-5.2
<b>MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS</b>					
Ice Cream Mix	32,582	29,410	31,169	-4.3	6.0
Yogurt Mix	2,313	2,312	2,191	-5.3	-5.2

1/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. 2/ Includes Swiss, Cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

**Internet Access:** Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>